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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT

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1. The primary purpose of the telecommunications conference in Canton in December 1949 and January 1950 was the formulation of plans for the improvement of the Chinese telephone and telegraph systems. The conference was attended by around 200 Chinese concerned with communications particularly in South China. The conference was well and efficiently run by General Chung. All who attended the conference were required to eat and sleep in the building in Canton in which the conference was held. Meetings took place both during the day and at night.
2. Plans were formulated for the expansion of the telephone and telegraph system particularly in South China. As a result of these plans within about a month and one-half after the conference long distance open wire lines were erected from Canton to the land adjacent to Hainan Strait. Communication was established with Haikou by radio telephone and telegraph. This job prior to the advent of Communist control would have taken around six months to accomplish instead of one month and a half. Also as a result of the conference the open wire lines between Canton and Hankow were put into good working order. 50X1-HUM
3. At the conference plans were discussed and formulated for the reorganization and regrouping of the telephone and telegraph administration with control centralized at Peking.
4. At the conference Training Committees were established as far as possible for each province and a detailed training program was discussed in which the learning of theory was minimized, and training for the solution of practical telephone and telegraph problems was emphasized.
5. At the conference Technical Committees were set up to formulate plans and make recommendations on technical telecommunications matters. It was decided that all large cities in China should be equipped with automatic rotary switching systems, smaller cities with step-by-step magnetic control systems, and manual magneto systems would only be employed in the rural areas.
6. It was decided at the conference that all buying of equipment for the Chinese telephone and telegraph systems would be centralized, and directed and controlled from Peking. Moreover, it was decided that all buying should be direct from the manufacturer and not through brokers or dealers. However, all available communications equipment, even old equipment, was purchased by the Chinese Communists authorities in the Hong Kong market.

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7. Telephone and Telegraph operational and safety regulations were formulated at the conference.
8. A system whereby a record of the work accomplished by each employee must be kept was inaugurated at the conference. Moreover, a system was initiated whereby a record must be kept of the actual work accomplished on a project in relation to the planned progress of the project. Plans were made and put into operation for the elimination from employment of those who were serving no useful purpose in the telephone and telegraph system and the sending of these individuals to training camps. Ways and means of eliminating ~~raft~~ from the telephone and telegraph system were discussed and initiated.
9. The establishment of manufacturing plants for telecommunications equipment in North China at Tientsin, in South China at Canton, and in Central China at Shanghai, and the sending of young engineers to USSR to acquire knowledge of manufacturing techniques were discussed at the conference.
10. A large telecommunicators conference was scheduled to be held in Peking in June, 1950.
11. [redacted] the effect of the communist sponsored conference held ~~in Canton~~ from about 9 December, 1950 to about 5 January, 1950 at least partially accomplished its objectives of improving the Chinese telephone and telegraph system, but many of the plans made at that conference and at the one held in Peking in June, 1950 probably failed because of lack of equipment.

[redacted] copper wire and magneto telephones were being sent from Canton to the Chinese forces fighting in Korea.

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